

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 35, 40 and 45-48 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 31, 32, 36, 37, 41 and 42 to read as follows.

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said apparatus comprising:

a first discrimination unit, arranged for discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy;
and

a print data unit, arranged for generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy such that the page order in each copy is maintained if said first discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said first discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy[[]]; and

a second discrimination unit arranged for discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said first discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data unit generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination unit discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination unit discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.

32. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein if said first discrimination unit discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data unit divides the number of pages of the document by the number of printers to obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

33. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising a transmission unit arranged for transmitting the print data generated by said print data unit to the printers.

34. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

Claim 35 (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said method comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy; and

a print data generating step of generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy such that the page order in each copy is maintained if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy[.]; and

a second discrimination step of discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data generating step generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.

37. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 36, wherein if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data generating step divides the number of pages of the document by the number of printers to obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

38. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 36, further comprising a transmission step of transmitting the print data generated in said print data generating step to the printers.

39. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 36, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

Claim 40 (Canceled).

41. (Currently Amended) A computer program executed in an information processing apparatus for causing a plurality of printers to execute printing, said program comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating whether a document comprising a plurality of pages is to be printed as a plurality of copies or as a single copy; and

a print data generating step of generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy such that the page order in each copy is maintained if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, and generating print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy[.]; and

a second discrimination step of discriminating whether copy-by-copy printing is designated, if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a plurality of copies, wherein said print data generating step generates the print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document copy by copy if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is designated, and generates print data for causing the plurality of printers to print the document page by page if said second discrimination step discriminates that the copy-by-copy printing is not designated.

42. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 41, wherein if said first discrimination step discriminates that the document is to be printed as a single copy, said print data generating step divides the number of pages of the document by the number of printers to obtain a number of print pages for each printer and generates the print data based on the obtained number of print pages.

43. (Previously presented) A program according to claim 41, further comprising a transmission step of transmitting the print data generated in said print data generating step to the printers.

44. (Previously presented) A program according to claim 41, wherein the printers include an ink jet printer.

Claims 45-48 (Canceled).